



Bureau of State Laboratory Services
Office of Laboratory Licensure, Certification & Training

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JANE DEE HULL, GOVERNOR

DATE: September 27, 1995
SUBJECT: Information Update #19

1. Nicki Fatherly of Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) requested us to include the following statement in this Update:

"ADEQ Inquiry for Information"

ADEQ received a document entitled *Methanol Preservation in the field, Concerns & Alternatives* from an entity calling themselves the Methanol Extraction Committee. This document contained comments and suggestions concerning the proposed modifications to soil VOC sampling methods in the ADEQ QAPP. As there was no cover letter or contact person identified from this group to whom ADEQ can respond, would a representative from that group please call Nicki Fatherly of ADEQ at 207-4411 to further discuss this document. ADEQ is looking forward to reviewing this document. Call us to discuss what type of response the group is expecting".

2. Prabha Acharya had several meetings with Mary Simmerer, Unit Manager, Drinking Water Compliance, ADEQ, to discuss the problems experienced by the environmental laboratories. Following is the excerpts from our discussions and hopefully this information will remove some of the uncertainties that are associated with the Drinking Water Reporting (DWAR) forms.
 - A. The laboratories are no longer required by ADEQ to report the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) violations in the drinking water samples within 72 hours. The owners of the utilities are primarily responsible for reporting the MCL violations to ADEQ within 48 hours after the receipt of the analytical reports. One exception being nitrate, which must be reported within 24 hours. The laboratories are ultimately responsible for the test results and they may continue to report all the test results to ADEQ, if the client so desires.
 - B. The *DWAR* reports are rejected by ADEQ for several reasons, the most common ones being:
 1. Incorrect dates
 2. Wrong System ID #
 3. Incorrect Sample Type
 4. Incorrect Source Type
 5. Incorrect Point of Entry #

- C. The corrections can be made on the forms by drawing a single line through it, initialing and dating it.
- D. The *Specimen #* specified in the form is a **unique** 15 character (maximum) alpha numeric code that identifies a particular sample. The specimen # can be the laboratory identification number and each reporting DWAR form requires a unique specimen number. For example, a TTHM and a VOC reporting form **CANNOT** have the same specimen number even though, to the lab, it is under one job/lab number. ADEQ suggests a suffix of some sort be added in this case (i.e., 1234**T** & 1234**V**).

Other suggested suffices are:

Micro specimen # =1234**M**

Organic specimen # =1234**O**

Inorganic specimen # =1234**I**

If the sample analysis results exceed the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), this specimen number will be used as the "Original Violating Specimen #" on the Confirmation Sample Report. Different specimen numbers must be used if partial results are sent to ADEQ. One suggestion is to add another suffix to the original specimen number (for e.g., 1234**IA** in place of 1234**I**).

- E. The contaminants Ethylene Dibromide (EDB) and 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP) are listed on both the DWAR 3 (SOCs) and 4 (VOCs) forms. The Federal Rule switched their category from VOCs to SOCs in 1993. If EDB and DBCP are being reported as SOCs, **DO NOT** report them as VOCs. The reason for that being the MDLs for EDB and DBCP as VOCs are above their MCLs.
- F. *Date and Time* the lab received the samples in mm/dd/yy hh:mm format (24 hr time).
- G. *System ID* is a unique 5 digit Public Water System Identification (PWSID) number given to the facility. This number must accompany all test results submitted to ADEQ.
- H. *System Name* is the name by which the water system is registered at ADEQ. Always use this name. For e.g., City of Chandler.
- I. *System Location* is the city/area in which the water distribution system (facility) is located.
- J. *General Collection Point* is the general description of the specimen collection point (i.e., kitchen sink, street address). This is associated with *Zone* samples.
- K. *Sample Collection Point/ID* can be one of the following and only one box can be checked per analytical form;
1. *Point of Entry (POE)* into the distribution system, is a sampling point required for certain contaminants. It is represented by a three digit # assigned by ADEQ. All appropriate compliance monitoring must have a POE number and is required for DWAR 2,3,4 forms.
 2. *Well or Surface Intakes* should have the identifying numbers assigned by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and is required for Radiochemical monitoring.

3. *Plant* (any place the treatment occurs) identifying number is assigned by ADEQ and is required for TTHMs.
4. *Zone* identifying number is assigned by the water system in consultation with ADEQ and is required for Bactis, Lead & Copper and Asbestos.
- L. *Sample Type* indicates the reason for the specimen collection and a box must be checked off to receive the credit for fulfilling the routine monitoring requirements. If it is a composite sample, list all the *POE* #s or *System ID* #s that make up the samples.
13. *Lab ID Number* is a 4 digit number assigned by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). For the labs using electronic data reporting, this field in the current version is too short. Do not include the letter "Z" in "AZ" in the lab ID number.
If the laboratories are having problems with the ADEQ forms, call Mary Simmerer at 207-4647. They are willing to solve the problems on case by case basis.
3. If you have any questions regarding the Updates or if you have any technical questions that need clarification, please call Prabha Acharya, Program Manager, Technical Resources and Training, at the above numbers.

THIS MESSAGE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT UPON REQUEST, BY CONTACTING: Wesley Press AT (602) 542-0357

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